

## How Testing Works

## **Selection of Horses**

- There are three possible methods for selection of horses for in-competition anti-doping testing:
  - **testing winners** (i.e. winners in major events, medal winner and at least one from each medal winning team);
  - **random testing** (i.e. using a method of random selection agreed by the Judge, Veterinary Commission/Delegate and Testing Veterinarian);
- **Spot testing** can also be undertaken of specifically selected horses.
- Horses can be tested several times during one event.
- As soon as practical after a horse is selected for testing, it is accompanied to the sampling box. Urine and blood samples are collected from each horse under the supervision of the testing officials.

## Sampling Kit

- Sample collection is done by a FEI Testing Veterinarian following a strict procedure.
- The main tool is the **sampling kit** packed within a uniquely numbered box and containing, among other items, gloves, urine bottles with security caps, tubes and a needle for blood sampling, a security bag, bar code labels with the same unique number.



## **Sampling Protocol**



The utmost care is taken with samples during and after collection. Testing Veterinarians open the sampling kit box and arrange all items on a bench; they wear disposable gloves on each hand which are only removed when the bottles have been closed at the end of the procedure.

## **Sample Collection**





Picture 1



Urine and blood samples are collected from each horse under the supervision of the testing officials. Every attempt should be made by the FEI Testing Veterinarian to collect firstly urine (*picture 1*) and then blood (*picture 2*). However, it is recognized that sometimes only a small volume of urine can be collected and, on occasions, even after 60 minutes, a horse may produce no urine. In such a case a blood sample may be the only sample taken.

• When urine is not available, only blood will be analysed, which nonetheless constitutes a proper test under FEI Rules.



## **Preparation of the Samples**

• The collected blood and urine samples are both split into **A Sample** and **B Sample**.



#### **Documents**

- The FEI Testing Veterinarian completes the Medication Control Form and adds the necessary stamps and labels that identify the sample . It consists of three (3) parts. The Testing Veterinarian must keep one part, the Person Responsible for the horse must keep the second part, and the third part is placed in a small plastic bag and is sent to the MCP Laboratory with the samples. The latter part is identified by the unique number but not by the name of the Person Responsible.
- A copy of the Medication Control Form is sent to the FEI.

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## Preparation and shipping of the samples to the laboratory

• The samples are carefully packed and placed back into the original kit box which is closed with a sealing strip (*picture 1*). The kit boxes are in turn placed in an izothermal bag with ice packs (*picture 2*); the izothermal bag is placed in a special blue carrying bag closed with a tamper-proof security clip (*picture 3*). The MCP Sample Dispatch form is filled in and faxed to the laboratory. The bag is shipped by courier to the laboratory.



Picture 1

*Picture 2: Forwarding materials: isotherm bag; ice packs; security clips; blue carrying bag* 

Picture 3

### **Person Responsible Witnesses the Entire Process**



The person responsible or their appointed representative signs a form to certify that they have witnessed the entire procedure and have no objection to the entire procedure. If there are any concerns or complaints, the PR will have the opportunity to write them on the form.

### Laboratory Testing of the Samples



Once the samples reach the Laboratory, the B Samples are stored securely awaiting any required testing at a later date. The A Samples (urine and/or blood) are used for the initial analysis. The process may take anywhere between 7 and 21 days to complete. If a prohibited substance is detected, the results are promptly reported to the FEI Veterinary Department. This Department then works in cooperation with the FEI Legal Department, to examine the specifics of the case and to decide on the need for any further action.



# What Happens Next?





